



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at 6.30 pm In The Fulforth Centre

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr G Ludlow (Vice Chair), Cllr S Wilson, Cllr D Robson, Cllr E Waldoock, Cllr A Page, Cllr F Morrell, Cllr K Wilson, Cllr A-M Johnson, Cllr L Claughan, and Mrs C Dixon (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr D Forth, Cllr J Barrett, and Cllr R Sharp

Item No:

1.	Introductions and Apologies for Absence	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30 pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr D Forth, Cllr J Barrett, and Cllr R Sharp.
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	Cllr S Wilson declared an interest in any planning applications.
3.	Questions from the public	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) No members of the public were in attendance.
4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from 6 th March 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record.
5.	Police Matters	Cllr Dixon sent a letter to the Police Crime Commissioner and cc'd Kevan Jones MP into the correspondence. Cllr Dixon was disappointed as Kevan Jones MP received correspondence from the Chief Constable before Cllr Dixon received any communication. Correspondence read out to all members. PACT Meeting arranged for 5 th April in The Fulforth Centre at 4 pm. Cllr Dixon urged members of the Council to attend. Cllr S Wilson was concerned about his name being mentioned in the correspondence as he thinks there is a misunderstanding about what we have been informed and what is going on. Cllr S Wilson and Cllr Waldoock asked if they could provide a report for the PACT meeting, and both agreed .
6.	Clerks Report	Email received regarding Flytipping Email received from a member of the public regarding Fly tipping near to Lingey Close. This was passed to the County councillors.

		The clerk mentioned an issue she had seen on Facebook regarding fly tipping at Blackett's bank. Cllrs Wilson and Waldock informed that it is an area that always has an issue as to who the land belongs to. Cllr Wilson suggested that they will report it again. Cllr Page asked if they could put up some signs regarding CCTV. Cllr Waldock was unsure if this would be allowed without actual CCTV being present, so she confirmed she would check on this. <u>Complaint</u> A complaint has been received regarding Father Michael who serves at St. Bede's Sacriston and St. Cuthberts Chester le Street Church. The Clerk acknowledged the email and advised the sender that the matter needed to be taken up with the Church. <u>Website</u> The new website has now gone live. The front page has been updated and the clerk is slowly working through updating the rest of the website. <u>Training</u> 4 x Training courses taking place on Tuesdays 16th April, 23rd April, 14th May & 21st May 2024, 6 pm (90 mins approx.) on Zoom AGAR Briefing by Mazars Mon 22 April 2024 at 6 pm (30-60 mins) <u>RESOLVED</u> There was no uptake for training courses by members. The Clerk is to attend the Mazars briefing. <u>Roadworks</u> Location - Front Street Traffic management - Traffic control (multi-way signals) Date - 8 Apr - 10 Apr by Nexfibre Location - Witton Road Traffic management - No carriageway incursion Date 25 Apr - 8 May by Northern Power Grid <u>Disabled Parking</u> The Clerk has received information from a member of the public who has a disabled daughter and is never able to get in the disabled spaces outside the surgery. Cllr Wilson will speak to Highways regarding this and will also get in touch with the practice manager to get some information regarding whether the lift is working.
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		<u>Dog Barking</u> Member of the public has an issue with a dog barking constantly and creating a nuisance near Daleside. Cllr Waldock suggested that the RSPCA be contacted. Cllr Wilson informed me to pass on his email address to the resident. <u>AGM and Annual Meeting</u> It was agreed that the Annual meeting would take place on May 1st at 6 pm. The AGM would follow at 6:15 pm, and the monthly parish meeting would take place after that at 6.30pm. <u>Durham Miners Gala Advert</u> Correspondence received requesting if we would like an advert on the Miners Gala brochure. It was agreed that we would have the same as last year which was a ¼ page for £200.
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	The bushes have now been taken out from around the Crossroads, awaiting removal of them. Cllr Wilson is still chasing DCC regarding the Crossroad project. Advised will contact again in a week and cc the manager into the email. Cllr Johnson thanked Cllrs for the fantastic job they had done at the Crossroads however, felt that it may be a good idea to obtain costings for annual maintenance of the area. Cllr Dixon advised that they have pulled all the weeds out and intend to put some bark down in the area to suppress the weeds. The discussion led to the topic of hiring a groundsman and the possibility of considering it in the future.
8.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – Costings had been sent to members via email regarding the bus shelters in the village that require repair. 3 x shelters that require repair and 1 x bus shelter that should be replaced as unable to be repaired. The total cost of repairing the shelters would be £2,682.25 plus VAT and an additional cost for replacing the shelter at the Crossroads. Discussion took place regarding the best option for the replacement of the shelter at the Crossroads. It was agreed not to proceed with anything until we have had the PACT meeting, and this would then be discussed at the next meeting. Village Clock –Cllr Dixon received a telephone call about the service of the clock as this needs to be carried out he agreed for it to take place. All members agreed with this. Parish Building – Cllr Page left the room. Cllr Dixon advised that he had been approached by Cllr Page about using the building for the Rainbows Club which his wife runs. The children are approximately 8 years old, and they have about 20 children attending the club. They

		had advised that there may be some funding available to refurbish the building so it can be put back into use. Cllr Dixon had advised that they need to research the matter and attend a parish meeting with a full proposal. War Memorial – Work to be carried out in warmer weather. Pit Wheel – Nothing to report.
9.	County Councillor's Reports	Reports received from Cllr S Wilson; • Ongoing personal cases. • Waiting on contractor regarding the highway lines. • The bottom estate building site has been fenced off and it has been tidied slightly but it is up for sale, the planning permission is still valid. Potential 106 monies. • Fence at the Cricket Club – CC was going to investigate who owned the fence. • Fynway is still an ongoing parking issue. • Meeting to arrange with highway officer to walk around the village regarding the broadband works in the village and the condition the village has been left in. • Fyndoune – looking at prices for updating, chasing the status on the football pitches. • Attended a lecture in Newcastle regarding the mining institute, very insightful. Would like to put a night on in Sacriston. • Burnhope not currently progressing but may change. Cllr E Waldock; • Ongoing casework. • Meeting with Launchpad next Thursday afternoon at Holly Acres. • Meetings regarding the budget have been taking place. • Attended Assets training with the DCC – to share presentation. • Bin to be installed at Lingley Close. • Hope to have a meeting with Karbon – any issues with Karbon please pass on. Cllr Ludlow asked if County Cllrs were aware of the boxes that have appeared everywhere in the village. Cllr Waldock is to confirm. Cllr Robson enquired as to if anything had been heard about the car that was damaged at the top of Cross Lane. Cllrs had not heard anything regarding this.
10.	Group Representative Reports	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting • Becca has now gone on maternity leave.

		• Age UK has been funding the meals however, the funding has now stopped. There will now be a charge of £3 per meal. • The Lloyds bank account is going to close. • New staff member started on 1st April. Development Group • Nothing to report. HR & Finance Group • Nothing to report no meeting. Allotment Association Meeting • Nothing to report as no meeting. • The clerk discussed how much work the allotments take up and had been looking at a package from Scribe. The information had been sent via email to members before the meeting. The clerk discussed the 3 packages and price structure. Cllr Morrell asked if this would be paid by the allotments. Cllr Dixon informed that this is for the Parish Clerk to use to carry out her daily duties as Clerk and therefore this should come out of the parish accounts. It was agreed to proceed with the professional package which costs £18 per month and a one off fee of £126 plus VAT. New Hill Allotments • Nothing to report.												
11.	Budget & Grant Applications	<u>Bank Account</u> As of the 3rd April 2024, the bank balance was £70,832.18. There was a slight amendment to the account closing on 31st March as there was a pending transaction, so the account closed on 31st March 2024 at £70,866.37. Remittance received regarding Precept payment £66,033.66. <u>Financial Budget</u> Last year we spent a total of £50,062.84. <u>Invoices paid in March</u> <table><tr><td>Employee Pay</td><td>£836.83</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC</td><td>£69.80</td></tr><tr><td>HP Ink</td><td>£11.99</td></tr><tr><td>Microsoft Office</td><td>£59.99</td></tr><tr><td>JL Clean – Bus Shelters</td><td>£280.00</td></tr><tr><td>Cross Lane KG Garden Services</td><td>£300.00</td></tr></table>	Employee Pay	£836.83	HMRC	£69.80	HP Ink	£11.99	Microsoft Office	£59.99	JL Clean – Bus Shelters	£280.00	Cross Lane KG Garden Services	£300.00
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		<u>Invoices to pay – All Agreed</u> LITE - £4874.88 (VAT 812.48) Managing asset training (Emma) - £10 O’Brien’s Funfair (deposit Christmas Extravaganza) - £837.50 Still waiting for bank details to make payment to Harry Robson						
12.	Date and time of next meeting	Next meeting is to be held Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 6.30 pm. Meeting closed at 7.44 pm						

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date